

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-46 (canceled).

Claim 47 (currently amended): An information access system capable of distributing program meta information and a content with an interrelation established therebetween, the information access system comprising:

an information distribution device storage means for storing:

- (a) program meta information; and
- (b) content meta information; within an information distribution device;
wherein the content meta information is updated in real time;

a transmitter configured to transmit: transmission means for transmitting

- (a) the program meta information; and
- (b) a meta information reference ID; from the information distribution device
to an information reception device;

an information reception device including:

- (a) a display device;
- (b) a receiver;
- (c) a processor; and
- (d) a memory device storing instructions, which when executed by the
processor, cause the processor to operate with the receiver and the display
device to:
 - (i) receive: reception means for receiving
 - (A) the program meta information; and
 - (B) the meta information reference ID; from the information
distribution device;

- (ii) request means for requesting content meta information from to the information distribution device based on the said received meta information reference ID, received by the reception means; distribution means for distributing the requested content meta information being distributed to the information reception device in response to the request; made by the request means;
- (iii) determine whether the requested content meta information has an update possibility;
- (iv) if the determination is the requested content meta information has the update possibility, perform an update confirmation process;
- (v) if the determination is the requested content meta information does not have the update possibility, do not perform the update confirmation process so as to increase efficiency of an update process; and
- (vi) display means for displaying the distributed content meta information requested acquired from the information distribution device, said displayed wherein the content meta information:
 - (A) being acquired, based on the meta information reference ID; and, is
 - (B) being a latest content meta information.

Claim 48 (currently amended): The information access system of according to claim 47, wherein when executed by the processor, the instructions cause the processor to operate with the receiver to receive the reception means receives the program meta information and the meta information reference ID over a network.

Claim 49 (currently amended): The information access system of according to claim 47, wherein when executed by the processor, the instructions cause the processor to operate with the receiver to receive the reception means receives the program meta information and the meta information reference ID over a broadcast wave.

Claim 50 (currently amended): The information access system of according to claim 47, wherein the displayed content meta information ~~received based on the meta information reference ID~~ includes address information of an entity of the content.

Claim 51 (currently amended): The information access system of according to claim 47, 50, further comprising ~~first~~-content access means for making an access to the content based on the address information of the entity of the content with the interrelation established with the program meta information.

Claim 52 (currently amended): The information access system of according to claim 51, further comprising ~~first~~-analysis means for analyzing preference information from the content accessed by the ~~first~~-content access means.

Claim 53 (currently amended): The information access system of according to claim 52, wherein the content is searched based on the preference information.

Claim 54 (currently amended): The information access system of according to claim 47, wherein the content meta information is set with a keyword related to a program.

Claim 55 (currently amended): The information access system of according to claim 54, further comprising ~~second~~-content access means for making an access to the content related to the keyword based on the keyword.

Claim 56 (currently amended): The information access system of according to claim 55, further comprising ~~second~~-analysis means for analyzing preference information from the content found by a search means based on the keyword.

Claim 57 (currently amended): The information access system of according to claim 56, wherein the search means further comprises preference search means for searching the content based on the preference information.

Claim 58 (currently amended): An information distribution device capable of distributing program meta information and a content with an interrelation established therebetween, the information distribution device comprising:

a transmitter;

a receiver;

a processor;

a memory device storing instructions, which when executed by the processor, cause the processor to operate with the transmitter and receiver to:

(a) store: storing means for storing

(i) program meta information; and

(ii) content meta information which, wherein the content meta information is updated in real time;

(b) transmit, to an information reception device: transmission means for transmitting

(i) the program meta information; and

(ii) a meta information reference ID; to an information reception device;

(c) receive reception means for receiving a request for content meta information from the information reception device based on the meta information reference ID transmitted to the information reception device; and

(d) transmit, to the information reception device, transmission means for transmitting the content meta information to the information reception device based on the meta information reference ID transmitted to the information reception device, said information reception device being configured to:

(i) determine whether the requested content meta information has an update possibility;

(ii) if the determination is the requested content meta information has the update possibility, perform an update confirmation process;

- (iii) if the determination is the requested content meta information does not have the update possibility, do not perform the update confirmation process so as to increase efficiency of an update process; and
- (iv) display said transmitted content meta information, said displayed content meta information:
 - (A) being based on said meta information reference ID; and
 - (B) being a latest content meta information.

Claim 59 (currently amended): The information distribution device of according to claim 58, wherein when executed by the processor, the instructions cause the processor to operate with the transmitter to transmit the transmission means transmits the program meta information and the meta information reference ID over a network.

Claim 60 (currently amended): The information distribution device of according to claim 58, wherein when executed by the processor, the instructions cause the processor to operate with the transmitter to transmit the transmission means transmits the program meta information and the meta information reference ID over a broadcast wave.

Claim 61 (currently amended): An information access device comprising:
a display device;
a receiver;
a processor; and
a memory device storing instructions, which when executed by the processor, cause the processor to operate with the receiver and the display device to:

- (a) receive: reception means for receiving
 - (i) program meta information; and
 - (ii) a meta information reference ID;
- (b) request means for requesting content meta information based on the received meta information reference ID, the requested content meta

information being distributed to the information reception device in response to the request;

(c) determine whether the requested content meta information has an update possibility;

(d) if the determination is the requested content meta information has the update possibility, perform an update confirmation process;

(e) if the determination is the requested content meta information does not have the update possibility, do not perform the update confirmation process so as to increase efficiency of an update process; and

(f) after receiving the distributed content meta information, display means for displaying the distributed content meta information, said displayed -after reception, wherein the content meta information received,

(i) being based on the meta information reference ID; and, is

(ii) being a latest content meta information.

Claim 62 (currently amended): The information access device of according to claim 61, the-wherein when executed by the processor, the instructions cause the processor to operate with the receiver to receive reception means receives the program meta information and the meta information reference ID over a network.

Claim 63 (currently amended): The information access device of according to claim 61, wherein when executed by the processor, the instructions cause the processor to operate with the receiver to receive the reception means receives the program meta information and the meta information reference ID over a broadcast wave.

Claim 64 (currently amended): The information access device of according to claim 61, further comprising first-content access means for making an access to the address information of the an-entity of the a-content included in the content meta information.

Claim 65 (currently amended): The information access device of according to claim 64, further comprising first-analysis means for analyzing preference information derived by accessing the address information of the entity of the content.

Claim 66 (currently amended): The information access device of according to claim 65, further comprising search means for searching the content based on the preference information.

Claim 67 (currently amended): The information access device of according to claim 61, further comprising second-content access means for making an access to content based on a keyword relating to the content included in the content meta information.

Claim 68 (currently amended): The information access device of according to claim 67, further comprising second-analysis means for analyzing preference information of the content accessed based on the keyword.

Claim 69 (currently amended): The information access device of according to claim 68, further comprising preference search means for searching the content based on the preference information.

Claim 70 (currently amended): A An information access method of operating an information access system capable of distributing program meta information and a content with an interrelation established therebetween, the information access-method comprising:

- (a) causing an information distribution device to store; storing
 - (i) program meta information; and
 - (ii) content meta information which within an information distribution device,
wherein the content meta information is updated in real time;
- (b) causing a transmitter to transmit; transmitting
 - (i) the program meta information; and
 - (ii) a meta information reference ID; from the information distribution device
to an information reception device;
- (c) causing an information reception device to receive; receiving

- (i) the program meta information; and
- (ii) the meta information reference ID; ~~from the information distribution device;~~

(d) causing the information reception device to ~~request~~ content meta information ~~from~~ to the information distribution device based on the received meta information reference ID;

(e) causing the information distribution device to ~~distribute~~ the ~~requested~~ content meta information to the information reception device;

(f) causing the information reception device to determine whether the ~~requested~~ content meta information has an update possibility;

(g) if the determination is the ~~requested~~ content meta information has the update possibility, performing an update confirmation process;

(h) if the determination is the ~~requested~~ content meta information does not have the update possibility, not performing the update confirmation process so as to increase efficiency of an update process; and

(i) causing a display device to display the ~~distributed~~ content meta information ~~requested~~ from the information distribution device, said displayed wherein the content meta information:

- (i) being acquired, based on the meta information reference ID; and, is
- (ii) being a latest content meta information.

Claim 71 (currently amended): The ~~information access method~~ of according to claim 70, which includes causing the information reception device to receive wherein the program meta information and the meta information reference ID are received over a network.

Claim 72 (currently amended): The ~~information access method~~ of according to claim 70, which includes causing the information reception device to receive wherein the program meta information and the meta information reference ID are received over a broadcast wave.

Claim 73 (currently amended): The ~~information access method of according to~~ claim 70, wherein the content meta information received based on the meta information reference ID includes address information of an entity of the content.

Claim 74 (currently amended): The ~~information access method of according to~~ claim 72, 73, wherein the content is accessed based on the address information of the entity of the content.

Claim 75 (currently amended): The ~~information access method of according to~~ claim 74, wherein preference information is analyzed from the accessed content.

Claim 76 (currently amended): The ~~information access method of according to~~ claim 75, wherein the content is searched based on the preference information.

Claim 77 (currently amended): The ~~information access method of according to~~ claim 70, wherein the content meta information is set with a keyword related to a program.

Claim 78 (currently amended): The ~~information access method of according to~~ claim 77, wherein the content related to the keyword is searched based on the keyword.

Claim 79 (currently amended): The ~~information access method of according to~~ claim 78, wherein preference information is analyzed from the content found based on the keyword.

Claim 80 (currently amended): The ~~information access method of according to~~ claim 79, wherein the content is searched based on the preference information.

Claim 81 (currently amended): A An information distribution method of operating an information distribution device, the method comprising:

- (a) causing a memory device to store: storing
 - (i) program meta information; and
 - (ii) content meta information which within an information distribution device, wherein the content meta information is updated in real time;
- (b) causing a transmitter to transmit: transmitting
 - (i) the program meta information; and
 - (ii) a meta information reference ID to an information reception device;
- (c) causing a receiver to receive receiving a request for content meta information from the information reception device based on the meta information reference ID transmitted to the information reception device; and
- (d) causing the transmitter to transmit, to the information reception device, transmitting the content meta information to the information reception device based on the meta information reference ID transmitted to the information reception device, said information reception device being configured to:
 - (i) determine whether the requested content meta information has an update possibility;
 - (ii) if the determination is the requested content meta information has the update possibility, perform an update confirmation process;
 - (iii) if the determination is the requested content meta information does not have the update possibility, do not perform the update confirmation process so as to increase efficiency of an update process; and
 - (iv) display said transmitted content meta information, said displayed content meta information:
 - (A) being based on said meta information reference ID; and
 - (B) being a latest content meta information.

Claim 82 (currently amended): The information distribution method of according to claim 81, which includes causing the transmitter to transmit wherein the program meta information and the meta information reference ID are transmitted over a network.

Claim 83 (currently amended): The ~~information distribution method of according to~~ claim 81, ~~which includes causing the transmitter to transmit wherein~~ the program meta information and the meta information reference ID are transmitted over a broadcast wave.

Claim 84 (currently amended): ~~A~~ An information access method of operating an information reception device storing instructions, the method comprising:

- (a) causing a receiver to receive: ~~receiving~~
 - (i) program meta information; and
 - (ii) a meta information reference ID;
- (b) causing a processor to execute the instructions to request ~~requesting~~ content meta information based on the meta information reference ID, ~~the requested content meta information being distributed to the information reception device in response to the request;~~
- (c) causing the processor to execute the instructions to determine whether the ~~requested content meta information has an update possibility;~~
- (d) if the determination is the requested content meta information has the ~~update~~ possibility, causing the processor to execute the instructions to perform an ~~update confirmation process;~~
- (e) if the determination is the requested content meta information does not have the ~~update possibility, causing the processor to execute the instructions to not perform the update confirmation process so as to increase efficiency of an update process;~~ and
- (f) after receiving the distributed content meta information, causing a display device to ~~display receiving and displaying the distributed~~ content meta information, ~~said displayed wherein the content meta information received,~~
 - (i) being based on the meta information reference ID;
 - (ii) being ~~is~~ a latest content meta information.

Claim 85 (currently amended): The ~~information access method~~ of according to claim 84, which includes causing the receiver to receive wherein the program meta information and the meta information reference ID are received over a network.

Claim 86 (currently amended): The ~~information access method~~ of according to claim 84, which includes causing the receiver to receive wherein the program meta information and the meta information reference ID are received over a broadcast wave.

Claim 87 (currently amended): The ~~information access method~~ of according to claim 84, wherein address information of an entity of a content included in the content meta information is accessed.

Claim 88 (currently amended): The ~~information access method~~ of according to claim 87, wherein preference information derived by accessing the address information of the entity of the content is analyzed.

Claim 89 (currently amended): The ~~information access method~~ of according to claim 88, wherein the content is searched based on the preference information.

Claim 90 (currently amended): The ~~information access method~~ of according to claim 84, wherein content is accessed based on a keyword related to the content included in the content meta information.

Claim 91 (currently amended): The ~~information access method~~ of according to claim 90, wherein preference information of the content accessed based on the keyword is analyzed.

Claim 92 (currently amended): The ~~information access method~~ of according to claim 91, wherein the content is searched based on the preference information.

Claim 93 (currently amended): The information access system ~~of according to~~ claim 47, wherein the content meta information:

- (a) includes ~~is~~ information about the content with the interrelation established with the program meta information; and
- (b) wherein content meta information ~~is~~ hierarchically below the program meta information.

Claim 94 (currently amended): The information distribution device of according to claim 58, wherein the content meta information: ~~is~~

- (a) includes information about the content; and
- (b) wherein content meta information ~~is~~ hierarchically below the program meta information.

Claim 95 (currently amended): The information access device of according to claim 61, wherein the content meta information:

- (a) includes ~~is~~ information about the content; and
- (b) wherein content meta information ~~is~~ hierarchically below the program meta information.

Claim 96 (currently amended): The information access method of according to claim 70, wherein the content meta information: ~~is~~

- (a) includes information about the content; and
- (b) wherein content meta information ~~is~~ hierarchically below the program meta information.

Claim 97 (currently amended): The information distribution method of according to claim 81, wherein the content meta information: ~~is~~

- (a) includes information about the content; and
- (b) wherein content meta information ~~is~~ hierarchically below the program meta information.

Claim 98 (currently amended): The ~~information access method~~ of according to claim 84, wherein the content meta information ~~is~~

- (a) includes information about the content; and
- (b) wherein content meta information is hierarchically below the program meta information.